The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

AUGUST 2008 Volume 4, Issue 8 Copyright RCT

From The Editor...

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Hello Again Fellow Club members!

A bit of a short issue this month, which left plenty of room for a nice article on Amateur Radio Direction Finding or ARDF by our resident tech guru Rich KR7W.

Many of the club members are beginning to get into this interesting and fun activity. In addition, running around in the bush helps keep the members fit!

The RCT Hamfest kicks off this Saturday, August 9th 2008. Please attend or help out if you can. I'm sure that there will be a lot to see and do there.

Last but by no means least is a nice article by Al N7OMS on the upcoming Salmon run event/contest. Last year, the participants and club member raised a nice chunk of change which went right back into the clubhouse in the form of much needed repairs and maintenance.

Most of the fund-generating activities at the RCT go into keeping the club running. Many of us don't realize how much it takes to keep an organization like the club going on a day-to-day basis.

Not to be too subtle, but only some of the needs are monetary. The biggest thing that a club needs to survive is member participation. After all, if we were not interested in the various club activities, why did we join?

So, think about this a bit when stuff like Field Day, the Hamfest, W7DK at the fair, The Jim Kirkreit picnic, The salmon run, November sweeps, etc etc etc come around. Join in and help YOUR club look and be its best.

One last beat of the drum… Elections are coming up soon. If you wish to get down and dirty and get involved, run for a position in the club. We can always look in from the sidelines, but there's nothing like actually participating in the process to make you feel like a true member of W7DK!

73 All!

Gary WG7X

Board Meeting
2 July, 2008

The RCT Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

Officers and board members present:
President: Randy Thompson – AD7FF
Vice President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Board Member: Al Burleson -- K7HW
Board Member: Bob Purdom – AD7LJ
Board Member: Frank Palmer – AC7JY

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 9 names on the attendance roster.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

The minutes of the 4 June 2008 Board meeting were approved as coordinated/corrected by e-mail.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: The normal bank statements, utility bills and club newsletters and two notices on new Washington State sales tax rules were received. We have also received a new property tax assessment. The total property assessment was reduced by $ 300.00 from last year

A copy of the correspondence log is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden – K7UPG was on vacation;

There was no treasurer's report

ILLNESS AND SILENT KEY: None reported

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick KE7EMW reports that the club membership continues to slowly increase, now standing at 295. Rick reviewed the new license renewal notice program. 2 member's licenses expired last year and so far this year one has.

Field Day 2008: Bob Purdom AD7LJ provided a quick review of Field Day and Nick K7MO is compiling the results. There were over a hundred names on the attendance roster. A representative from Governor Greigoire's office attended as well as Jim Pace K7CEX, ARRL Western Washington Section Manager. Bob expects a preliminary Field Day results review at the next club meeting. Bob intends to write a thank you letter to Western State Hospital and include Governor Greigoire's Field Day proclamation and thank you letter.

Last year, Bob was led to believe that we could save some money by using the State Hospital's porta-potties… That information proved to be in error, and we had to rent porta-potties from Honeybucket this year for a cost of $ 370.00. A motion was made seconded and passed to pay the Honeybucket bill.

Hamfest: Bob AD7LJ reports that the Hamfest flyers are in the mail and he expects a couple of planning meetings soon to tamp down details.

W7DK Kirkreit Picnic: Larry KD4VOM provided an initial report on this year's picnic which was held at Spanaway Lake Park. The Club advanced $ 255 for this year's picnic, and after expenses of $ 208 for shelter and food, and attendee donations of 81.75, and subtracting normal clubhouse expense items, the picnic cost was $ 186.25

W7DK at the Fair: Larry KD4VOM, in Pat WT7N's absence reminded folks that this year's September Fair sign up schedule is available on the website.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Travel Trailer: Larry KD4VOM reported on the special Board Session following the 25 June General Membership Meeting where a motion was made, seconded and passed to transfer ownership of the Kenskill travel trailer to Rich Manson N7ANF in response to his request. The letter ending our interest in the travel trailer, along with the other necessary documents was given to Rich. The Pierce County office asked for additional information from Rich, and, as a result, Rich has procured a trip permit and will complete the paperwork after he moves the trailer.

Hamfest/Field Day Signs: Roger Holme KE7EMV tabled a proposal to repair and add additional signs. Our signs are a bit ragged and one was stolen during last year's Hamfest. Roger was asked to return with his sign designs, along with a proposed materials cost estimates. Steve KD7UB offered to help Roger if needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Safety Deposit Box: Larry KD4VOM is reconciling the club's Safety Deposit Box signatories. We have some loose ends to make the changes formal. We will need a Board action at the next Board meeting.

Lawnmower Repair: Larry KD4VOM noted that Bob Heselberg K7MXE has recently done the lawn. Bob reports that he used a very temporary fix to the mower deck to get the job done, but that the mower needs repair. Bob also suggested we investigate a lawnmower business out on the Mountain Highway which is reported to be affordable.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

VE REPORT John AC7WW

Tuesday, July 8th six candidates attended the testing session at the Radio Club of Tacoma clubhouse. Six Volunteer Examiners graded eleven elements with seven being passed.

Two new Technicians joined the Amateur Radio Service. One candidate came in to take the Technician Exam and also passed the General Exam. Three candidates upgraded to General.

Thanks to the following volunteer examiners for their time:

Jon, AD7AW
Rich, KK7VH
Bill, AB7WJ
Rich, KK7VH
Roland, WQ7P
Michael, AD7TH (New VE)

We will have a testing session at the Hamfest Saturday August 9th.
The next scheduled testing session will be Tuesday, August 12th.

President's Corner...

As you all know this year was a big spend year for the clubhouse. I do not apologize for that. It was a joint effort to spruce it up a bit. The repairs were needed, and I swear that I played no favorites in who did the work.

Although I did try to get one of the contractors that I know to do the roof for us that didn't happen. Rich, Alan, Chuck and Steve deserve a big hand and thank you from the club as a result of the work done on the house itself.

As for my self; I am not at all very good at keeping in touch with anyone at all. Usually I get caught up in what is right in front of me and everything else gets misplaced!
So much for short term memory loss hi hi.

I have not been a very active Prez folks... Sorry about that, it seems that some things just seem to ruin other things sometime, no I don't mean my bike either.

Just remember that elections for club president and a couple of new board members is coming up this year, so give it some serious thought about whom you would like to see in those positions. As for myself, I took the position for one term, as was my understanding. So now for some of you that really would like to see me out of office, here's your big opportunity to do so.

Again I apologize for my inactivity, I do not enjoy trying to get something going that my be of benefit for most, only to continuously hear don't have time or too far away or bad time for it. so eventually a person stops trying to get things going, and goes his or her own way.

Granted, I don't get along with everyone and don't really try to either. Though I do give respect where that respect is due. I'm funny that way. Well guys and gals think about the elections coming up this fall. Maybe I won't have so many of my old friends pass this year ,GOD willing..

73 AD7FF Randy

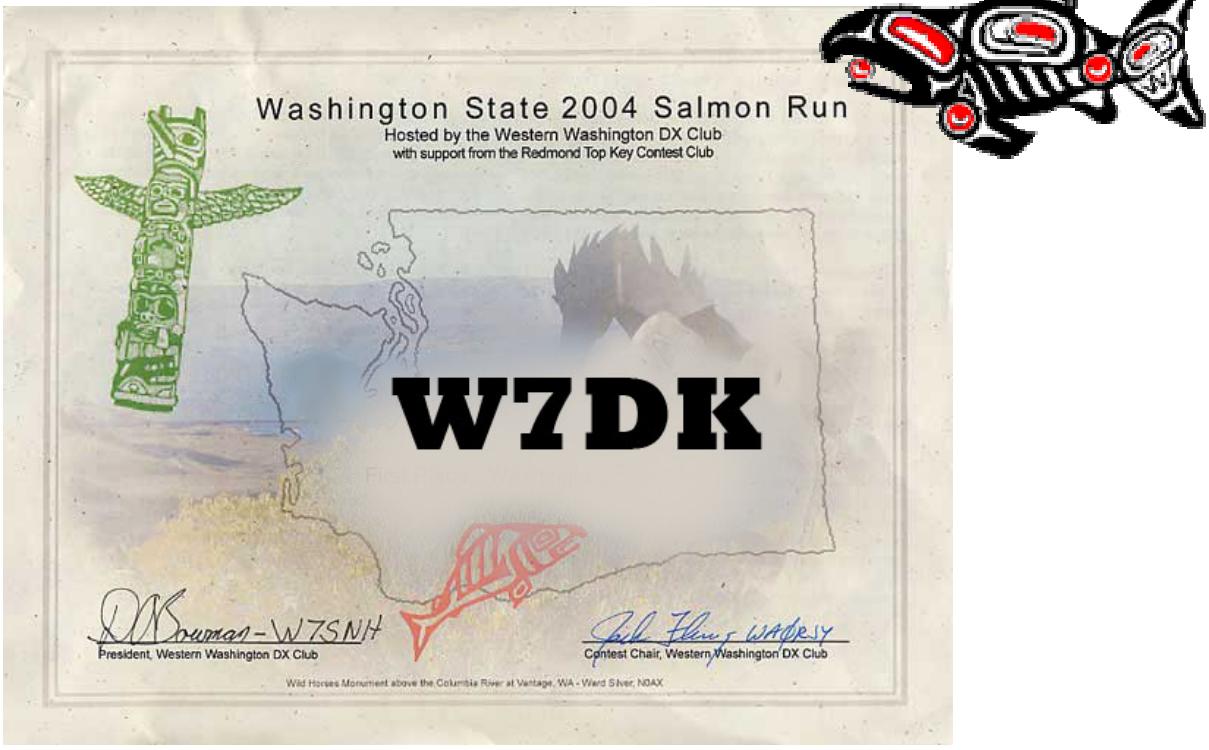
The Salmon are running! The Salmon are running!

Al Ferguson, N7OMS

The Salmon are running! The Salmon are running! Once again the Washington State QSO party is fast approaching. W7DK is gonna fire up the bands and attempt to net all 39 Washington State counties. We came up short by two counties last year but hope that by also working CW this year we can catch our limit.

This year will also see the second annual Salmon Run Fund Raiser. Each member will be receiving a letter about the event and a pledge form that you can fill out and return in the envelope provided. The funds that we raise will be used to maintain and improve your Club House. A few of the high priority projects will be mentioned in the letter. If you know of other projects or wish to help with the labor please feel free to contact me or the officers and board members of the Radio Club of Tacoma. There are handy e-mail links to the officers and board members on our website and I'm in the membership roster.

Elsewhere in the Bark you'll see a list of last year's charitable givers so check to see if we got your name spelled right I had a lot of fun last year and I'm being asked if the cowbell will be rung this year? We also plan to have a potluck Saturday night, September 20th. So get your mother's casserole dish out and join us. And if you see any Salmon running get a picture!


Washington State 2004 Salmon Run
Hosted by the Western Washington DX Club
with support from the Redmond Top Key Contest Club
W7DK
President, Western Washington DX Club
Contest Chair, Western Washington DX Club
Wild Horses Monument above the Columbia River at Vantage, WA - Ward Silver, N0AX

Salmon Run Contributors, 2007, Thank You!

Name	Call
Adams, Harry S	W7HSA
Adams, Linda S	KE7FKX
Baker, Peter G	AD7EU
Ballard Jr, Clark Tilton (CT)	N7UH
Blacksten, Steven J (Steve)	AD7VL
Bond Jr, Oliver A (Ollie)	AD7CC
Buck, Chris R	KE7LDE
Burleson, Cecil A (Al)	K7HW
Burstiner, Leonard A	KA7NWF
Carter, Albert B (Al)	K5EAF
Cerny Jr, Jerome J (Jerry)	W7JC
Churchill, Alton V (Al)	AC7BU
Clarke, John C	AC7WW
Danisher, Andrew	W7RW
Eckler, Doug A	KE7CMF
Elwell, Michael EA (Mike)	W7GHW
Evancho Jr, Andrew (Andy)	WA7JGO
Ferguson, Alan K	N7OMS
Gates Jr, Robert E (Bob)	W7BJ
Gibson, Kenneth L (Ken)	N7ELF
Guyot, Morel D	W6LIX
Hamilton, Jon R	AD7AW
Hase, Vern M	KD7GTZ
Hatlestad, Donnavon K (Don)	AC7FA
Heasty, Richard D (Rich)	KK7VH
Hicks, Casey M	WY7V
Hudson, Harry W	K7LAZ
Jensen, John Chris (Chris)	W7YX
Jonez, Thomas D (Tom)	K7TDJ
Jonez, William A	AB7WJ
Kemmer, Charles Edward (Chuck)	AC7QN
Kern, Patrick E	K7IBC
Kirkendall Jr, Harold L	KE7FCP
Koonce, Charles I (Charlie)	N5AYP
Kurtz, Maurice (Maury)	KD7VJX
Leary, Richard S (Rick)	W7LKG
LeBlanc, Paul J	K7AXJ
Lentz, Alan M	W7AML
Lester Jr, Joseph S (Joe)	K7AWJ
Lucas, William J (Bill)	KB7IHB
Mackey, Bruce A	KD7UAQ
Manson, Richard B (Rich)	N7ANF
Martin, Jim D (Jimmie)	WB5K
McAdams, Gary M	WG7X
McFadden, Gary T	K7UPG
Mitchell, Albert	KB7MPU
Moore, Karl M	KE7LCY
Wong, Harry	N7DOE

Name	Call
Murphy, Shirley A	N7QHW
Nace, Roger A	K8RN
Nelsen Jr, Silas E (Si)	KA7AQT
Nolten, Roddy J	KE7JQU
Oakman, Douglas E (Doug)	AD7AV
Ohls, Richard A (Dick)	K7ITX
Osborne, Barbara D	W7UYL
Palmer, Frank E	AC7JY
Palmer, Jill M	K7JIL
Pankey, Quentin G (Gary)	KE7ETD
Patrick, Richard (Rich)	KR7W
Patrick, Robert E (Bob)	W7EXC
Pavia, Joseph P (Joe)	KD7LJ
Perrussel, Bruce K	WB7TVS
Phillips Jr, William F (Bill)	KE7KJY
Pier, Michael C (Mick)	KK7QS
Poore, Angela S	KC7EQ
Purdom, Robert M (Bob)	AD7LJ
Robinson, Gary G	K7GGR
Rohrer, William N (Bill)	W7IJ
Root Jr, Edwin W (Ed)	KC7OKS
Rose, Rickey H (Rick)	KE7EMW
Russman, Stephen G (Steve)	WB7WUX
Ryan, Richard C (Dick)	W7RGD
Sadler, Thomas J (Tom)	KC7UFX
Saucedo, Roddney J	WV7O
Scott, Kenneth M (Ken)	KB7UXT
Sexsmith, Michael H (Mike)	W7MSX
Shaw, Matthew T (Matt)	KE7KJW
Sim, Diane	W7SIM
Souter, Charles R (Chuck)	KA7HJN
Stahlhut, William H (Hal)	W7EC
Stewart, Robert G (Rob)	WB7QCS
Svensson, F Roland (Roland)	WQ7P
Swanson, James A (Jim)	WA7JIM
Terwilliger, Roger A	WA7ANJ
Vandenheuvel, Bob	KE7ECQ
Vogel, Lawrence O (Larry)	KD7WLR
Watson, Richard E (Larry)	KD4VOM
Watson, William A (Bill)	W9BYH
Webb, Leroy M (Lee)	KC7VAA
Wilcox Jr, James T (Jim)	KD7ZBK
Williams, Alfred (Al)	K7PUC
Wingerter, Patricia (Pat)	WT7N
Wingren, Michael J (Mike)	AB7CQ
Winter Jr, Joseph N (Nick)	K7MO
Winter Sr, Joseph N (Joe)	WZ7M
Winter, Raymond L (Ray)	AC7KQ

Dateline: August 2008

Sparky's "View from the Shack"

This and that around the club, and more…

Sparky's *welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs. Editorial philosophy — While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.*

- *Elections are coming Part I*
- *Hamfest is upon us…*
- *Attaboys*
- *Salmon Run is coming…*
- *View from the Shack*

Elections are coming…Part I

August is here, even though Summer has been hard to find. Within the next few months, the Club will form a Nominating Committee, who will search among the brightest, best and willing to take on the responsibility of steering our course for the next two years. This proves to be a daunting task for the Nominations team. It seems odd that with nearly 300 folks in our roster, we still experience a reluctance to serve. We need leaders with a vision for the Club's future, impeccable integrity and ethics along with an ability to improve club services and operations. Not everyone is cut out for leadership, but we owe it to those who have, over the past 90 years, built and nurtured this venerable Radio Club of Tacoma to select those with the "Right Stuff" to carve out a better future. The whole club should be engaged in finding and promoting the selection of candidates who fill the bill. Any candidate must consent to have their name placed in nomination. Stay tuned for more detail on the process in next month's Sparky's View

Hamfest is upon us…

By the time you read this, Hamfest will be a recent memory. Sparky notes that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Hamfest manager to secure the needed volunteer help to make the Hamfest work light on everybody. Hamfest is important to the Club in several ways, not only does it raise needed funds for club operations, but it keeps W7DK and the Club on the regional Amateur Radio horizon. We have an opportunity to meet, greet and know hams and potential hams who live in the surrounding areas. With nearly 300 members we should not have a problem fielding folks to help setup, sell tickets, handle raffles, assist vendors, work at our consignment and Country Store operations. Everyone needs to find an area where they can help out and get involved.

Salmon Run is Coming...

Mark your calendars for Salmon Run this year. It's a double header for Radio Club of Tacoma folks; A great contest to participate in, either at the club or deployed to some remote corner of the state, and we raise some needed cash for critical club projects such as replacing our marginal clubhouse alarm system, etc.

View from the Shack...

Sparky has noticed some larger crowds at Saturday Open Houses — Good news, and have no idea why the increase, weather, or some alignment of the stars. We need to thank those that shoulder the load of opening up the Clubhouse and offering coffee, donuts and on the last Saturday of the month, Dogs and Chili. Sparky has learned that the donations are a bit sparse sometimes and seldom cover the cost of holding Open House…. Its not only the Donuts and Coffee, Dogs and Chili, but also the cups, sodas, plates, plastic ware, cups, paper towels soap etc, etc., that have to be purchased. So put in a little extra to help keep this important Club function working well.

The Disclaimer...

These articles are intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.

Sparky

Remember, "Amateurs built the Ark, professionals built the Titanic."

Errors Errors Errors!

It looks like the staff at the "*LOGGERS BARK*" made a small boo-boo…

Quote:

From Alan N7BF,

"There is one error that I found in the online issue of the Bark.

The photo is captioned, "Harry, K7LAZ, on 20cw."

Unfortunately, that's not Harry, it's me, Alan, N7BF on 20cw."

Sorry, Al, I'll have a talk with the staff!

ED

Fox Hunting Outing Report

by Rich KR7W

Each year CQ Magazine sponsors an International Fox Hunting Weekend... where hidden transmitter enthusiasts are encouraged to put on organized hunts to get beginners interested... and get the experienced hunters out hunting.

What Luck... Some of the local wildlife visited the Gig Harbor Picnic Area just before the May 10 Fox hunt commenced. Chuck AC7QN foto.

But first... **A HISTORY LESSON:** About two years ago, Art Jury KF7GD, came to a radio club meeting and explained the sport of Fox Hunting , Bunny Hunting, or ARDF (amateur radio direction finding). He brought some equipment and a lot of members circled the room with Yagi antennas made from tape measures. There was a high interest in this activity... so I was asked to hold a class on building your own equipment. The equipment consists of an Active Attenuator and the Tape Measure Yagi antenna. The attenuator electronically reduces the hidden transmitter's signal level when the hunter gets close to it and the tape measure antenna is a small, compact, lightweight Yagi where the elements are made from discarded 1-inch tape measure material. About 8 club members built antennas and active- attenuators with over half of them working well. Then organized hunts were held at the radio club's DK at the Beach annual summer picnic as well as other times. End of History Lesson.

Back to the story at hand... Chuck AC7QN and Rich KR7W planned and organized "an official" hidden transmitter hunt in Point Defiance Park at the Gig Harbor Picnic Area along the park's 5 Mile Drive. The date was May 10 which coincided with CQ Magazine's date.

We hid 8 transmitters in the wooded area with the "home base" being the Gig Harbor Picnic Area. The hunt date was advertised at the Radio Club of Tacoma by Alan N7OMS and Pat WT7N as well as on the Northwest Radio Direction Finding Yahoo email group... with the hope that hunters would come from miles around.

Having never put on an "Official Fox Hunt" before... We wondered... Would the terrain work with 50 mili-watt transmitters? Would the bushes absorb the signals? Would the antennas propagate the signal well enough so hunters could receive them from the start point? Would the course be easy enough for newbies and difficult for seasoned hunters? Lots of concerns to think about. So, it seemed important to go to the hunt area and actually hide and find the transmitters ourselves. After all... this event was to be an "official CQ Magazine Fox Hunt Weekend event".

The weekend before the May 10 hunt...

Chuck AC7QN, Pat WT7N, and Rich KR7W hid some transmitters in the proposed hunt area. One of the Ammo Can Transmitters (made from a discarded two meter handy talkie, a battery, and a controller... all contained in a surplus ammo can) and all 5 of the low power international transmitters were hidden. The Ammo Can transmitter outputs about 200 mW and the International transmitters output about 40-50 mW to a horizontally polarized dipole

Fox Hunt story... from page 7

antenna about 3 ft off the ground.

While searching for the hidden transmitters it was discovered that the signals could not be heard well from the start point using the Active Attenuator with a typical two meter handy talkie (the tool of most hunters at the radio club). It was determined that we needed to hide the low power transmitters closer in and increase the height of the dipole antennas. Back to the wood shop to extend the antenna masts.

The day of the hunt... Chuck AC7QN and Rich KR7W bicycled to the hunt area with transmit-

Here's what the Bunny Hunters are hunting for. Each hidden transmitter was connected to a horizontally polarized dipole antenna. A cut-out of a bunny with its transmitter ID number was affixed to the antenna mast. On each cut-out was a 3 or 4 digit ham radio lingo secret code, like QRZ or LID or CQDX, and so on. The hunter had to jot the code down to prove that they actually found the hidden transmitter. Pat WT7N made the cut-outs.

ters in the panniers to set up. We biked to the site because the Metro Parks closes the 5 Mile Drive to cars until 1:00 PM on Saturdays so walkers, runners, and bicyclists can have a car free experience. After creating a map of where the transmitters were to be hidden... we set out hiding. The map came in handy because hiding places in the brush and bushes begin to look the same after a while and it becomes difficult to remember the transmitter's location.

All 8 transmitters were hidden just in time for

Doug AD7AV stopped by with his side-kick Harry N7DOE to do some hunting. Rich KR7W (L) gets Doug on the correct frequency for Bunny #6.

the hunt to start at 1:30 PM. There was equipment to loan to newbies and some members brought their homebrewed Yagi antennas and attenuators. Art Jury KF7GD and his son, Art Jr. came from the Seattle area. Neil Robin WA7NBF came from Port Angeles.

The fotos tell the rest of the story. Joe, too bad you went to the Stanwood Hamfest with Steve... Ya sure missed a good time at the bunny hunt. –30– Rich KR7W

Alan W7AML gets acquainted with the Tape Measure Yagi and Active Attenuator.

The sign-up table at the Fox Hunt. Seems like no ham radio event goes without the staple of donuts. These donuts were gourmet quality from Pau's donut shop.

It's Art KF7GD and Art Jr finishing the hunt. We were worried about their whereabouts towards the end of the hunt. They were the only Fox Hunters who found all eight transmitters.

Here's Alan N7OMS… looking fresh at the start of the bunny hunt. Check out Al's equipment: Radio Shack 2 meter Handy Talkie and Active Attenuator (on chest strap) and the Tape Measure Yagi antenna. It is surprising how directional this Yagi is.

Susan, KE7SRS (left, Bob's YL) and Pat WT7N (center) assist Bob KE7ECQ (with Yagi) with the hunt for Bunny #6. Susan holds a map of the hunt area that was provided to each hunter. Bob is holding the antenna vertically to pose for this foto. The hidden transmitter antennas are actually horizontally polarized.

Mr. Foxy going to hide from the Bunny Hunters.

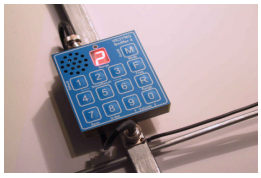
Al N7OMS looks like he is deep in the woods. He most likely is near the trail. One of the rules of this hunt is that there would be no more than 10 feet of bush-whacking to find the hidden transmitter.

Neil WA7NBF, who came from Pt Angeles, begins the hunt from the picnic area. Neil hunts with a Yagi made from PVC pipe and #12 copper wire and an Ackerly VK Sniffer Receiver. Neil also uses the provided map and compass to record the direction of each international transmitter when it is on.

Above… Neil observes Al's technique. Al was hunting one of the 5 international style transmitters.

Right… Bob is so very close to transmitter #6, which is indicated by the yellow rabbit shaped figure attached to the antenna mast. The location of the Ammo Can transmitter is noted with the white arrow. Note how Bob's tape measure Yagi antenna bends as it passes through the brush.

List of definitions from Fox Hunting Report article.

	ARDF: Amateur Radio Direction Finding is the general name for Fox Hunting, Bunny Hunting, Hidden T hunting. There are many niches in Amateur Radio. Radio Sport is one of these niches. Included in Radio Sport is ARDF. This activity which can combine RDFing and Orienteering (map and compass) is very popular in European countries. Bunny Hunting used to be very popular in the 50s, 60, and 70s using automobiles to find the hidden T which was a ham in his car hiding out somewhere giving verbal clues on the air while transmitting occasionally.
	ACTIVE ATTENUATOR: This gizmo is connected between the 2 meter Handy Talkie receiver and the directional antenna to reduce the incoming level of the hidden T. Without reducing the level… the HT Signal strength meter would always be pegged out. When build correctly… this device works very well. The T-hunter can get within inches of the Hidden T and still show directivity on the HT" S-meter. The only problem is that the attenuator has an "inherent loss" of approx 35-40 dB. Because of this built-in loss… the hidden T sometimes can't be received at the beginning of the hunt.
	**The Ackerly VK Sniffer** is a state of the art hidden T receiver. This device operates on 144-148 MHz or 120-124 MHz Aircraft band. The Sniffer has it's own built in attenuator with a range 0 to 140 dB in 9 steps. There is no need for a two meter Handy Talkie and Active Attenuator. The hunter listens to the signal with headphones. The receiver generates a tone that changes pitch with hidden T signal intensity.
	TAPE MEASURE Yagi: This antenna is used by approx 90 percent of Hidden T hunters world wide. The TM Yagi that Radio Club members built was made from 1 inch wide Tape, PVC pipe, 1 inch radiator hose clamps, RG-58 Coax with a BNC connector. Follow the **ARDF** link on www.w7dk.org website for plans.
	INTERNATIONAL style transmitter: In an International T hunt… there are 5 transmitters on the same frequency… each transmitting for one minute in a sequence. Example: T #1 is on for 60 seconds then shuts off. Then T #2 is on for 60 seconds then shuts off… And so on until T #1 comes back on for 60 seconds. The foto shows KR7W's unit MO1. The actual transmitter is the postage stamp sized circuit board just above the battery. The output power is 40-50 mW. The transmitter transmits a Morse message "MO1" over and over. The '1' tells hunters which transmitter they are listening to.
	AMMO CAN Transmitter: This transmitter is built from old 2 meter Handy Talkies (usually without PL tone board), a high capacity battery, and a controller which times the transmitter ON/OFF time, usually 35 seconds ON, then OFF for 35-40 seconds. Each Ammo Can Hidden T operates on a different frequency, usually 1 MHz apart. The transmitter on the right is not the normal Ammo Can… as it is assembled inside of a Tupperware container. Note a copy of my ham license is taped to the side… just incase of… you know.
	Bunny with 'secret code': In bar no expense International Hidden T hunts there is an electronic punch gizmo to record that and when you found the transmitter. Here… the hunter must jot down the "secret" code and present it to the hunt organizer to prove that he/she did find the Hidden- T. The End. Joe…thanks for reading this far. Regards, Rich KR7W

Hidden Transmitter Hunt… Epilog

By Rich KR7W

The Bunny Hunt (or Fox Hunt… as CQ Magazine calls it, or Hidden T Hunt) was a big success even though not all of the donuts were eaten. I guess we needed coffee to go with. I was surprised that Art and Art Jr. drove from Seattle and Neil from Port Angeles. It was very nice to have them come all that way.

It was fun to watch some people pick up an antenna with attenuator and… "get into it" once they got tuned up and found a direction to follow. An example of high enthusiasm was Alan W7AML and his son Chris. They took off, with Alan marking the heading and Chris following into the woods on the main trail that runs through the entire length of the park. About 90 minutes later… I was over by hidden T #6… and I noticed Alan and Chris wading through the thick brush towards the road. I asked, "how come you didn't use the trail?". Alan's reply was something like, "I was on the trail and I received the signal this-a-way… so I just kept going through the brush". Alan excitedly commented, "I am gonna have to build me one of these".

Alan W7AML tuning up.

Larry KD4VOM asked me to show him how I would find a hidden transmitter. So, I grabbed the antenna and attached my HT… and down the trail we went. At a point on the trail we came to an intersection where we could straight (12:00) left (9:00), or right (3:00). The equipment showed that the signal was in the 10:30 direction which was not how the trail went. We consulted the map and determined that the 9:00 trail would bend around and we could get back on the bearing that the antenna showed. We maneuvered the trails and crossed the road. I told Larry that I thought we were very close. Just as the hidden T came back on… my Handy Talkie emits: boop boop… It was great fun until my HT battery went dead. Dang! And I forgot to grab the spare..

We were very lucky with the weather on the day of the hunt. It was a bit cooler than normal and overcast. Good WX for walking around in the woods for a couple of hours. The hunt ended at about 4:30 PM… when the last hunters, Art and Art Jr. emerged from down the trail. After putting things away it began to sprinkle. The transmitters still had to be picked up… so off I went to find them. I had prepared a map of approximate locations but after finding the first two… the brush all looked the same. I had to use my RDF equipment to locate the last 4 transmitters. Three of these only transmitted for one minute on and 4 minutes off. When I would get close the transmitter would switch off. Then I had to wait for four more minutes to resume hunting.

A big thanks to Chuck AC7QN, Pat WT7N, and Alan N7OMS for their assistance. Photos provided for this article came from the cameras of Chuck AC7QN, Pat WT7N, and Neil WA7NBF… All fotos were very nice.

Signing Off: I will let you know if this activity is going to be published in CQ magazine. Thanks for supporting ARDF. Regards, Rich KR7W.

Art Jury Jr… 8 transmitter finder.

Happy Birthday August

Day	Name	Call	RCT Number
2	Larry Watson	**KD4VOM**	1864
3	Larry Vogel	**KD7WLR**	2222
3	Robert Patton	**KD7YDL**	2314
4	Andrea Hoffman	**KE7UOH**	2370
4	Phil Gendreau	**W7PFZ**	1785
5	George Noble	**KK7FM**	1923
5	Rich Heasty	**KK7VH**	2070
6	CT Ballard	**N7UH**	2229
6	Frank Billington	**W7FJB**	1320
7	Edward Harwood	**KB7FEW**	1277
9	Joe Lester	**K7AWJ**	2235
10	Don Perry	**K7QLC**	522
10	Mike Sexsmith	**W7MSX**	2189
13	Ron Renwick	**KE7EWH**	2279
15	Davina Nolten	**KE7JQV**	2330
16	Jack Hegseth	**K7DBU**	459
17	George Lightner	**KD7QBE**	2076
21	Bob Crelling	**N7QOZ**	1401
24	Ralph Fuller	**KA7FIG**	950
25	JD Shaw	**KE7LCW**	2333
28	Steve Blacksten	**AD7VL**	2161
29	Russ VanWinkle	**KE7MEK**	2352
29	Wayne Klingenberg	**KD7UBM**	2198

The Radio Club of Tacoma's

Logger's Bark

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Club Officers

President: Randy Thompson AD7FF, 253-476-9249, ad7ff@hotmail.com
Vice Pres: Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772, hamtalker2@msn.com
Secretary: Larry Watson, KD4VOM, rwatson@chirpmail.com
Treasurer: Gary McFadden K7UPG k7upg@netzero.com

5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

Al Burleson K7HW burleca@mashell.com
Bob Purdom AD7LJ lcdrbob@hotmail.com
Gary Kohtala K7EK gary.k7ek@gmail.com
Alan Lentz, W7AML, 253-851-9774, alentz@centurytel.net
Frank Palmer AC7JY ac7jy@msn.com

Logger's Bark Staff

Editor in Chief: "Stop the Presses!!" Gary McAdams, WG7X, thebark@comcast.net
Printer/Publisher: "Start the Presses" John Clarke, AC7WW, 253-475-5854
Reporters: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma...
Send articles to: thebark@comcast.net or The Bark, 11405 88th Ct SW, Lakewood, WA 98498

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Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma, INC.
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:

AUGUST 2008 EVENTS

CLUB MEETINGS: Wednesdays August 13th and 27th at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting: Wednesday August 6th, 7:30 PM at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome.

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Support our club: Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz.

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz.